

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT:

Karen Larimore Wilkinson, PIO
Director of Public Information & Communications
City of Salisbury
City Hall, 217 South Main Street
Salisbury, North Carolina 28144
Office Phone: 704-638-2113 Cell Phone: 704-213-1050
Information: <http://www.salisburync.gov>
Work Email Contact: kwilk@salisburync.gov

Second Team of Off-Duty Salisbury Firefighters Arrive in Hyde County to Offer Support for Hurricane Irene Victims

Salisbury, NC – August 31, 2011_Salisbury Fire Chief Bob Parnell shares that a second team of off-duty Salisbury Firefighters deployed from the City of Salisbury on Tuesday evening, August 30. Parnell notes that the team arrived last night and is currently onsite in Hyde County, assisting with the aftermath of Hurricane Irene. The second team replaces the earlier team of six off-duty firefighters who were deployed on Sunday, August 28 in response to a request for aid from the State Emergency Operations Center. The second team can provide up to 72 hours of aid for the devastated area as outlined in the North Carolina Fire Chiefs Mutual Aid Plan.

Members of Salisbury's second relief team of off-duty firefighters are as follows:

Captain Michael Spry
Fire Control Specialist Gray Grubb
Fire Control Specialist Ted Reaume
Fire Control Specialist Michael Baker

In an update from Battalion Chief Morris, received at approximately 10:30 am this morning, Morris shares, "The second team of off-duty firefighters is now on location in Hyde County and our original relief team is headed home. The second team attended a briefing this morning and reviewed the Incident Action Plan with relief crews. Our replacement team from Salisbury will be working in the Scranton area today along side the Aberdeen Fire Department. They will continue the work that we have been doing this week by conducting damage assessments, serving meals, covering roofs, and providing a friendly face and shoulder to lean on." Morris reflects on the work of his team in the devastated area and adds, "For our original team, our mission has been both humbling and rewarding. We all miss our families and look forward to seeing them soon. Please thank everyone for their support and please know that every member of this crew has impressed me with their hard work and compassion for their fellow man."

Parnell adds that Salisbury citizens should be assured that the level of fire service for our community is in no way affected by the mutual aid deployment. "This team of second firefighters, just like the first team, is comprised of off-duty firefighters and all positions at the Salisbury Fire Department remain covered during this time."

The Salisbury Fire Department currently operates four fire stations and employs seventy-six full-time personnel. The department receives additional support from nine part-time firefighters. The City of Salisbury is an equal opportunity employer with over

180 different job classifications and 400 full time positions. For more information regarding the City of Salisbury and its services and departments, please visit us on the web at www.salisburync.gov. To receive updates regarding local initiatives, meetings, programs, and events, please join the City of Salisbury's Facebook users group at www.salisburync.gov/facebook or follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/CitySalisburyNC>.

###